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BURLINGTON, THURSDAY, NOV. 17.

WANTED.

When you want anything, advertise in the new special column of this paper. Some bargains are offered there this week which will pay you to read about. See page two. This page has more than 25,000 readers every week. **Don't miss it.**

Former Candidate Watson has turned the tables neatly on former Candidate Bryan of the democracy by saying that the Populist party is good enough for him and is not in need of reorganization.

New York politicians have already begun to talk of the majority election, the democracy favoring Mayor McCallan, while the republicans are inclined to look for a non-partisan candidate, holding that the metropolis is naturally democratic.

With wheat at over \$1.30 per bushel, William J. Bryan's silence as to his former campaign cry of "dollar wheat" is more eloquent than words. This only goes to show how little real value is to be attached to some campaign slogan that are often used effectively to capture votes.

Some of the political wisecracks are wondering whether or not President Roosevelt will give Governor Bates of Massachusetts a cabinet position as a consolation prize, judging from the manner in which Bates can behind the head of the national ticket the President does not owe him anything.

Our British cousins are badly divided over the effect that President Roosevelt's reelection is likely to have on their interests. The London Spectator credits the President with an ideal programme for the next four years, "the standard of which will be reason, justice, moderation and common sense." The Speaker and Saturday Review on the other hand have fears that British interests will be adversely affected by President Roosevelt's foreign policy.

GOOD OUTLOOK FOR BUSINESS.

Immediately following the election we ventured the opinion that the tremendous vote of endorsement given the Roosevelt administration meant a period of prosperity of pronounced proportions. It is gratifying to note that the stock market authorities are also inclined to take this view and to act upon it. Mr. Henry Clews in his weekly financial review considers the effect of election on business and finds ground for marked encouragement in relation to the outlook. He says that previous to election business had revived owing to the absence of distrust, and as the certainty of victory for the republicans increased with the approach of the date of the struggle confidence in the business outlook naturally grew apace.

One of the chief elements of confidence at the present time is the knowledge that the possibility of adverse tariff legislation has been removed for a considerable period to come. Mr. Clews very naturally omits to deal with the political aspects of this question, but the people of the United States should bear in mind the situation in the business and industrial world immediately following this election so that in coming campaigns they will not be inclined to be easily led away by cries for a smashed tariff.

The chief danger in the present situation is that which always attends any period of prosperity and that is that the rush to take advantage of high prices may be so great as to glut the market and cause a reaction to set in. There is no immediate danger of this character at the present time owing to the fact that the demand for most important commodities has far outrun the supply, but unless care is exercised the time may come when there still will be an over-production just as there has been in various times of prosperity in the past.

ANOTHER POLITICAL PARTY.

To the average political observer there would seem to be a sufficient number of national parties in the field already to answer all practical purposes, without the addition of another candidate for popular favor of this character. Word comes from Chicago, however, that a call has been issued for a conference to be held at a date to be announced in the near future for the purpose of organizing a new political party.

There is every reason to suppose that the scheme was concocted in reality by some disaffected Jefferson democrat, for the title officially bestowed on the gathering is "A Jefferson conference."

As a matter of fact, however, the call is issued by James H. Ferris, chairman of the national committee of the People's party, who says in the course of his address to the people, that the idea is to mass into one political organization all of those who believe that "pure democracy must be restored peacefully, or our institutions will fall."

It will be noted that this makes a common meeting ground for democrats, and populists and any other political band of voters who are opposed to the principles which underlie the republicanism, and who hold that the Republican party must be overthrown or the whole country will go to the dogs. Mr. Ferris claims that preparations for the presidential election of 1908 have already been begun by his followers and that in about ten days after the date of the recent election he hopes to have received a sufficient number of replies to enable him to proceed with the conference.

It was very commonly supposed that William J. Bryan had pre-empted the field of present preparation for the national election of 1908, but it seems that there is another political movement ready to lead the heterogeneous elements that formerly flocked under the populist and popocratic standards to a new political promised land four years hence.

Possibly Bryan and Ferris will go into political partnership, and have one price of admission for all the shows combined under the big tent.

CAPITAL PUNISHMENT STANDS.

The action of the House Tuesday in refusing a third reading to the bill providing for the abolishment of the death penalty in Vermont by the decisive majority of 133 to 83, will be viewed with satisfaction by a large portion of the people of Vermont. It is evidently the belief of this majority of the members of the House that the death penalty does act as a restraint on those tempted to commit the crime of murder although it may not always be effective, and in taking this position they unquestionably represented the sentiment of a majority of the people of Vermont; otherwise the margin by which the bill was killed could not possibly have been so large as it was.

New that the project to wipe from our statutes the law providing for capital punishment has been defeated, the only logical step for our lawmakers to take is to refuse to commute the death penalty in any instance unless it is shown absolutely that evidence has been discovered tending to show that the condemned was unjustly convicted. It was not intended that the Legislature should overturn the judgments of our courts without good and sufficient reason, and least of all on mere grounds of sentiment.

THE DRINK-BILL OF THE WORLD.

According to a statement recently given out by the United States Bureau of Statistics, the consumption of spirituous liquors as beverages, wine and beer, in the principal European countries and the United States for the year 1903 was, in gallons, as follows:

Countries.	Spirits.	Beer.
United Kingdom	5,538,374	1,570,700
France	5,177,748	28,900,000
Germany	12,313,396	1,782,778,000
Italy	11,593,000	6,755,000
Russia	17,559,500	151,625,000
Belgium	5,836,000	36,625,000
Sweden	10,735,500	4,448,000
United States (1903)	107,522,118	1,465,750,562

Wine.

Countries.	Wine.
United Kingdom	16,846,362
France	1,362,830,000
Germany	11,563,000
Italy	1,095,900,000
Russia	No data.
Belgium	8,948,200
Sweden	80,300
United States (1903)	\$8,735,457

That is to say the quantity of spirituous liquors consumed in the United States exceeded five hundred million gallons; of wine over three billion five hundred thousand gallons; and of beer over five billion and a half gallons.

The per capita consumption of the three kinds of beverages for the above countries for the year was as follows, in gallons:

Countries.	Spirits.	Beer.	Wine.
United Kingdom	1.35	3.12	3.9
France	2.51	7.48	24.72
Germany	2.11	36.77	1.92
Italy	3.4	5.9	31.96
Russia	1.29	1.3	—
Belgium	1.42	26.9	1.28
Sweden	2.13	8.33	38
United States	1.3	18.64	48

Thus France shows the heaviest consumption of spirits—viz., 2.51 gallons per inhabitant—the other countries following in the order of their per capita consumption of spirits: Sweden, 2.13 gallons; Germany, 2.11 gallons; Belgium, 1.42 gallons; United Kingdom, 1.35 gallons; Russia, 1.29 gallons; and Italy, with only .924 gallons.

The amount of money spent for alcoholic drinks in the countries comprised in the tables is not computed, but it could be stated only in billions of dollars.

UNCLE SAM'S NAVAL STRENGTH.

The developments of the past few years have served to demonstrate that the United States can not afford to neglect its navy. The people of this country have plainly shown their desire that the rights of Americans shall be thoroughly maintained abroad, as proven in connection with the recent controversy with the Sultan of Turkey and other international incidents. If we are to carry out the policy with reference to the Philippines clearly outlined during the late presidential struggle, it will manifestly be to our advantage to keep our naval arm so strong that it will make other nations stop to think twice before trying to embarrass us in any way in the Far East. Our rapidly growing commercial interests will also call for constantly increased number of war vessels to be stationed in different quarters of the globe to conserve those interests.

Considerations of this character have undoubtedly combined to induce the general board of the navy to adopt the programme just announced, which, if carried out, will put America third in

rank among the world's naval powers, the position held by Russia previous to her disastrous conflict with Japan, placing the United States ahead of all other nations in point of naval strength, save England and France.

The programme of the general board which is heartily endorsed by naval authorities of this country in general, includes the construction of three battleships, five scout cruisers, six torpedo boat destroyers, six torpedo boats and two squadron colliers. The decision of the board is discussed by Rear Admiral George W. Melville in a very interesting manner. He shows that whereas we have been running on almost parallel lines with Germany as regards increase in naval strength, this will give us a lead which we ought easily to maintain, although her schedule would enable her to exceed us in the number of her war vessels in five or seven years were we to build up our navy no faster than in the past.

Under the circumstances it is hardly strange that Admiral Melville should make Germany figure so conspicuously in connection with his discussion of the American navy. It will be recalled that some of our naval officers have been free to express the belief that our next great conflict would be with Germany, and while Admiral Melville does not hint of this possibility it is not difficult to see that he probably had it in mind when writing his estimate of the board's decision.

The apprehension of trouble with Germany in the not distant future was unquestionably increased by the course pursued by the German squadron in connection with Admiral Dewey's capture of Manila, but it will be recalled that Germany has frequently manifested a disposition to encroach on the American continent in a manner which strongly suggested the possibility of a clash with this country. It is true that the German government has recently given official recognition of our right to enforce the Monroe doctrine on the American continent, still it can not be denied that some of our naval officers continue to look for trouble in that direction.

Whether there be possibility of complications with Germany or some other power, it remains true that the best way to maintain peace is to be prepared for war, and owing to our unusual extent of sea coast this applies with particular force to our navy.

THEODORE ROOSEVELT.

The confidence which the FREE PRESS has felt and so often expressed, in the election of Mr. Roosevelt, was not based so much on his position as an exponent of the excellent principle of protection of American industries, or of the gold standard, or on the size of the republican campaign fund (which was much smaller than heretofore) or on the generalship of Cortelyou as the manager of the national campaign—though all these elements largely contributed to the result—as on the fact that the people well know Mr. Roosevelt, estimate rightly his character, and approve his course as an executive and as a man.

Beyond question Theodore Roosevelt was better known to the masses of our people when he was nominated, than any other candidate for the presidency at his first election, since the Republican party was organized. Fremont had some fame as an explorer, but none as a politician. Lincoln had come into notice as a debater of remarkable force and ability, in his debates with Douglas; but nobody knew much about his executive capacity. Grant had world-wide fame but it was a purely military fame. Hayes, Garfield, Cleveland, Harrison—not one of them was as well known to the masses before his election as Roosevelt. McKinley came nearer to it than his predecessors; but he, when nominated, did not equal his successor in public knowledge of his career, and esteem for his personal character.

Though the youngest of the Presidents, Theodore Roosevelt has been longer in public life than most of his predecessors. He was but twenty-two when he made his mark in the New York Assembly. Next he was doing high service to the nation as United States civil service commissioner. Then he showed his courage and executive capacity as head of the Police Board of New York city—a position which when administered as Roosevelt administered it, requires great executive ability and power of command. From that position he stepped into the assistant secretaryship of the navy, and was more of a force in that department than his chief. Then he had his term of actual military service and of marked distinction in Cuba. Then he was Governor of the Empire State—an office only second in responsibility to the Presidency of the Nation. Then he was forced into the Vice-Presidency; and then became President through the universally lamented death of McKinley, which no one deplored more than he, and the people know well with what nerve, integrity, and high purpose to be the President of the whole people he has borne himself as the head of the Nation. His books of history, biography and wild life have been read by hundreds of thousands and have disclosed not a little of the qualities of their author. If there had been nothing else in this remarkable career to make him known to the masses, his action in the great coal strike alone would have commended him to them. They thanked Roosevelt when they got coal to burn, and they will not soon forget the service he rendered in that matter.

The fact that Mr. Roosevelt's competitor was wholly unknown to the great public when he was selected to head the democratic ticket, and the further fact that the disclosures of Judge Parker's character and qualifications, since his nomination, have lowered instead of raised him in the estimation of all but the chirk-and-thin partisans of his party, of course have contributed to the great result; but after all it is upon his personal

qualifications and character, which the democratic leaders so foolishly chose to make the leading issue, that his election has chiefly been carried.

There is no such thing as chance as an element of prolonged success in a high executive office, like that of the Presidency. The man who succeeds in it must succeed by virtue of ability, wisdom, honesty, courage and leadership; and it is because of his possession of these qualities that the largest and best portion of the people of the northern half of this republic, and not a few in the South, including many thousands of his political opponents in both sections, honor and trust Theodore Roosevelt. May his life be preserved to fill out his coming term.

LONG-RANGE WEATHER FORECASTS.

The weather, since the Creator's decree after the deluge "while the earth remaineth, the seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, and summer and winter, day and night, shall not cease," has been a subject of perpetual interest. It will ever remain so, for the vast agricultural and other industries, the extensive commercial and marine interests, and, in fact, the daily affairs of man are so materially affected by the constantly changing weather. Meteorological forecasts with regard to the future, therefore, have been a subject of great interest, and to great importance. Since the weather follows immutable laws which man cannot change, and the manifold and valuable interests of man require for their successful prosecution a knowledge of the weather now prevailing and that which may be expected in the future, Congress, in February, 1870, enacted laws for the establishment of a national weather service. And to-day the United States leads the world in practical meteorology. Its forecasts and storm warnings are based on scientific observations taken by trained and experienced observers, and the deductions and opinions of able scientists and meteorologists, and are, therefore, the best obtainable. While the forecasts are far from perfect and leave much to be desired, they are sufficiently accurate to be of considerable value. With the scientific advancement of meteorology, and the light of our present knowledge of meteorology, the deductions and opinions of able scientists and meteorologists, and are, therefore, the best obtainable. While the forecasts are far from perfect and leave much to be desired, they are sufficiently accurate to be of considerable value. With the scientific advancement of meteorology, and the light of our present knowledge of meteorology, the deductions and opinions of able scientists and meteorologists, and are, therefore, the best obtainable. 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